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be measured by the police department according to the Bertillon system, which includes the taking of finger prints. *Downs v. Swann*, 111 Md. 53, 73 Atl. 653. When criminals begin to realize the importance attached by prosecutors and courts to finger-print evidence, the rights of the accused on this point will be investigated and declared; or will "unforgeable signatures" fall into the disfavor of the better class of cut-throats and safe-crackers, and tell-tale marks be quietly omitted from the record of crime?—S. W. W. in *Law Notes*, Feb., 1917.

New York Police as Employment Agents.—Commissioner Arthur Woods has reported that during 1916 New York policemen found work for 700 former convicts. The policemen were not actuated by sentimental motives. "We have done it," said Mr. Woods, "because we believe it is one of the best ways of preventing crime."

Here is a line of work suggestive in its possible application to Chicago. Unemployed former convicts add greatly to the burden of police responsibility. Every ex-convict is a source of worry to the conscientious police official who is eternally expecting trouble. Further, the difficulty which released prisoners experience in obtaining work is notorious. And when out of work, like other members of the human race, they are much more likely to become law-breakers.

Assisting them to obtain work establishes a bond of friendship and it reduces the police problem of preventing crime. The convicts are glad to receive the assistance as long as—in the words of one of them—they are not affronted with "the prodigal son stuff." Again, this job-finding activity adds a human interest to the sometimes deadly routine of patrolling the beat. Commissioner Woods has come upon a useful idea. It is commended for local consideration. —Chicago Herald, Jan. 13, 1917.

Comparative Costs of European and American Police.—In the April Review¹ the writer presented some comparative statistics of British and American cities which indicated a much greater relative cost for the cities of the United States than for those of Great Britain. Since the publication of the article, the writer has received a number of inquiries as to the factors of this greater cost. Some of the correspondents have called attention to the different salaries paid all classes of employes in the two countries and inquired how far this difference explains the higher governmental costs noted. The answer to these inquiries has come to hand, with reference to costs of municipal police, in two recent publications. They are (1) a book published by the Century Company of New York entitled "European Police Systems," written by Raymond B. Fosdick, former commissioner of accounts of New York city, and (2) a volume on general municipal statistics issued by the census bureau as for the fiscal year of 1915, although most of the figures presented relate to the calendar year 1914. From the two publications is compiled the following table of minimum and maximum salaries of patrolmen of twelve European and thirteen American cities:

¹See National Municipal Review, vol. V, p. 252.